

famous engraver Thomas Bewick was made accessible at Newcastle-upon-Tyne in August last year. The collection was left to that city by the will of the late Sir J. W. Pease. The city had already a good series of Bewick's works in the Hancock Museum, consisting chiefly of drawings and portraits. But Sir J. W. Pease had gathered together copies of all the books illustrated by Bewick, with some of his best drawings and many engraved blocks and personal relics. These have now all been arranged in connexion with the former collection.

---

*Meeting of the International Ornithological Congress.*—The Fourth International Ornithological Congress, under the Presidency of Dr. R. Bowdler Sharpe, will meet in London on the 12th of June this year, and an Organizing Committee has been formed to make the necessary preparations. The Secretaries to the Committee are Dr. Ernst Hartert, of Tring, and Mr. J. L. Bonhote, of Ditton Hall, Cambridgeshire. The Treasurer is Mr. C. E. Fagan, of the Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London. It is arranged that the Congress should sit from Monday, June 12th, to Saturday, June 17th, during which period it is proposed that evening receptions and short excursions shall take place. Longer excursions will be made after the Congress is over for those who are able to remain for them. The Meetings will be held in the Imperial Institute, South Kensington. A General Committee is being formed, consisting of Ornithologists from all parts of the world. All members of the B. O. U. will receive invitations to attend the Congress. Further particulars will be given in our next number.

---

XII.—*Obituary.*

CARLO, Freiherr von ERLANGER; COMTE AMÉDÉE ALLÉON;  
 Captain F. H. SALVIN; and Mr. EDWARD NEALE.

ORNITHOLOGY has sustained a severe loss by the death of Freiherr CARLO VON ERLANGER, who lost his life in a motor-

car accident at Salzburg on September 4th, 1904, when hardly 32 years old. From his boyhood Erlanger had been an ardent student of bird-life. He began to collect the birds of his native country when he was still at school, and presented many specimens to the Senckenbergische Museum at Frankfurt-a.-M. In this connexion he became first known to zoologists, for his donations were duly recorded in the Reports of the Senckenbergische Gesellschaft and his name was mentioned in the 'Catalogue of the Senckenbergian Collection of Birds.'

After having finished his studies, Erlanger went for a year to Lausanne, and for another (1895) to Cambridge, where he attended Natural Science lectures, and, after learning Arabic at the Oriental Academy in Berlin, soon began to travel. From Cambridge he visited Lundy Island, and it is hardly saying too much when it is stated that he collected birds wherever he went. In 1895 he was elected a member of the B. O. U. In 1893-1894 he made a tour in Tunis, and in 1896 started on his famous expedition to the Tunisian Sahara, where he brought together the largest and best collection of birds ever made during one expedition in that country. This collection resulted in the remarkable contributions to the Ornithology of Tunisia published in the 'Journal für Ornithologie' in 1898 and 1899, accompanied by seventeen excellent plates. This work was so important that it made its author at once famous throughout and beyond the ornithological world. Some parts of it, like his admirable treatise on the Crested Larks, will ever rank among the best articles written on the geographical forms of a group. It is a rare event that an ornithological writer begins his career with such a work. But Erlanger did not rest on his laurels, for in the same year that his Tunisian work was finished he set out on a more important expedition. On this occasion he selected Tropical Africa for his field of work. Together with Oscar Neumann, Dr. Ellenbeck, Mr. Holtermüller, and his excellent taxidermist and assistant Carl Hilgert, he started from Zeila on the Somali coast and travelled

to Adis Abeba, exploring on the way Southern Abyssinia and Harar. Separating himself here from Mr. Neumann, who thence made his well-known journey to the Nile, Erlanger travelled across Somaliland to Kismayu on the Indian Ocean. This daring march—Somaliland was at that time in a state of unrest—together with the explorations in Harar and round Adis Abeba, resulted in the bringing home of 8000 birdskins, about 1000 mammals, 400 reptiles, over 20,000 insects, and specimens of 3000 species of plants. Only a small number of the birds has as yet been worked out, but the first portion of the new series of articles, with splendid plates, has appeared in the 'Journal für Ornithologie.' A glance at it shews how careful and exact the author was—it must be admitted often with quite unrivalled series to work upon.

The chief aim of Carlo von Erlanger was to study in every detail the geographical forms (subspecies) of each species, and to investigate the actual affinity of the various described species and subspecies. He eagerly accepted Matschie's theory that the watersheds between river-systems are the principal demarcation-lines between the various forms. But he was not one-sided, for he also collected eggs and made biological observations, readily assisted by Mr. Hilgert.

If it is a thousand pities that Erlanger did not live to work out all his collections himself, it is sorrowful to think how much more he would have done afterwards—for he actually had in his mind further expeditions to German East Africa, to Turkestan and Thibet, and to the Polar Regions. His love for our beloved science and his energy were unbounded; but he also took interest in other matters and was very fond of shooting and other field-sports and much engrossed in his military duties as Lieutenant in the 13th Hussars. Nothing pleasanter and more instructive could an ornithologist do than to visit Erlanger in his home at Nieder-Ingelheim on the Rhine, where Charlemagne's Pfalz (castle) once stood. Whoever visited him there went away with regret that the time had flown so fast and with

the impression that he had met with an ornithologist and a man!—E. H.

Comte AMÉDÉE ALLÉON.—The biographical memoir prepared by Dr. Paul Leverkühn, and published in the last number of 'Ornis,' enables us to say a few words upon Count Amédée Alléon, who died on the 16th of January, 1904, at his residence, Makrikeuy, near Constantinople. Jean Gerard Amédée Alléon, born at Buyak-Déré on the Bosphorus, on the 8th of October, 1838, was the son of Count Jacques Alléon, and belonged to a well-known French family long engaged in financial business in Turkey. From his earliest days Alléon exhibited great artistic talent combined with a love of Natural History. A large series of his drawings of birds is now in the Museum of H.R.H. Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria at Sophia, where is also preserved the most extensive of several collections of the birds of European Turkey which he formed, consisting of upwards of 1000 specimens. Alléon's name is well known to all workers in European Ornithology as that of one of our best authorities on the birds of the vicinity of Constantinople and the western coasts of the Black Sea. In preparing his memoirs he was mostly associated with Jules Vian, of Belleville, near Paris, to whom he was latterly in the habit of transmitting his specimens by the Orient Express. A catalogue of the birds of the vicinity of Constantinople by Alléon and Vian will be found in the 'Bulletin of the Zoological Society of France' for 1880, and a memoir on the birds of the Dobrudsha and Bulgaria by the same authors in 'Ornis' for 1886. Alléon was also an excellent taxidermist, and published two works on this subject in 1889 and 1898. A complete list of his writings is appended to Dr. Leverkühn's biographical notice. In 1869 Mr. H. J. Elwes and the late Mr. T. E. Buckley visited Alléon at Constantinople and, as will be seen in their article on the birds of Turkey ('Ibis,' 1870, p. 60), gave a most appreciative account of the work he was then carrying on.

Captain FRANCIS HENRY SALVIN, who died on the 2nd of October in his 87th year, was the son of William Thomas Salvin, of Croxdale Hall, near Durham, while the family were also owners of Burn Hall in the immediate neighbourhood. His great-nephew is now in possession of Croxdale Hall, which has descended in an unbroken line from father to son since 1392, a length of tenure hardly to be equalled in the kingdom. Salvin was educated at Ampleforth in Yorkshire, and, through his father's marriage with Maria Weston, subsequently came into possession of the Sutton Estate, near Guildford, with its well-known Elizabethan mansion of Sutton Place. An ardent lover of nature, he made the habits of the animals around him his constant study, and was well known to ornithologists not only for his trained Cormorants and their fishing abilities, but also for his writings on Falconry. In 1855 he published, in conjunction with the late W. Brodriek, of Belford in Northumberland, 'Falconry in the British Islands' (with illustrations by Joseph Wolf), of which a second edition was issued in 1873; and in 1859, associated with Mr. G. A. Freeman, 'Falconry, its History, Claims, and Practice,' with a chapter on "Fishing with Cormorants." The latter part of his life was passed in quiet country pursuits at Sutton.

EDWARD NEALE, who for nearly twenty years had been a member of the British Ornithologists' Union, passed away, after a long and painful illness, on the 11th November last, at the age of seventy. By profession an artist, he devoted his talents more specially to the delineation of Animal Life, and painted chiefly sporting and Natural History subjects. The illustrations in the late E. Booth's 'Rough Notes on Birds, &c.' were executed by him, as were also several plates for Dresser's 'Birds of Europe.' Neale was devoted to his art, and continued his work even when seriously ill and confined to his bed, while he bore his sufferings with the greatest fortitude.